

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David Cleveland on 7/28/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 14, lines 16 and 17 delete "carbonyl."

In claim 21, lines 15 and 16 delete "carbonyl."

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: As is evidenced by the prior art of record, it is known in the art to crosslink various polymers with carbonyl and amine functional groups. The reactivities of these groups are known and their propensity to react together is well documented. Furthermore, Schipper et al. (US Pat. 6579932) teaches an aqueous coating composition comprising a polyurethane/acrylate dispersion wherein the polyurethane contains terminal carbonyl functionality and the acrylate contains terminal hydrazine functionality. However, as was correctly noted by applicants' representative, the use of the dicarbonyl-containing acetonyl acetone is included as a solvent rather than a reagent. The addition of such a compound, as is disclosed in the reference would not produce the instantly claimed

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dicarbonyl-functionalized polyurethane composition. Therefore, the instantly claimed composition comprising an acetoacetoxyl- or diacetone-functionalized polyurethane and a hydrazido-functionalized vinyl addition latex polymer is allowable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KYLE BAUMSTEIN whose telephone number is (571)270-5467. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Randy Gulakowski can be reached on 571-272-1302. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/KBB/

/RANDY GULAKOWSKI/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796